



State of Washington

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

Mailing Address: 600 Capitol Way N - Olympia, Washington 98501-1091 - (360) 902-2200, TDD (360) 902-2207
Main Office location: Natural Resources Building - 1111 Washington Street SE - Olympia, WA

DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE (DNS)

Name of Proposal: DNS 16-071: SCOTCH CREEK AND SINLAHEKIN WILDLIFE
AREAS MANAGEMENT PLAN

Description of Proposal:

This is a new management plan for the Scotch Creek & Sinlahekin Wildlife Areas. Over the next 10 years the plan will direct management activities on the following areas:

1. Scotch Creek (8,694 acres)
2. Chesaw (4,351 acres)
3. Pogue Mountain (1,196 acres)
4. Tunk Valley (1,399 acres)
5. Similkameen-Chopaka (1,139)
6. Charles & Mary Eder (5,739 acres)
7. Ellemehan (1,462 acres)
8. Sinlahekin (14,314 acres)
9. Chiliwist (4,890 acres)
10. Driscoll-Eyhott Island (325 acres)
11. McLoughlin Falls (165.5 acres)
12. Carter Mountain (2,000 acres)
13. Horse Spring Coulee (850 acres)
14. Buzzard Lake (840 acres)

Proposed uses include sharp-tailed grouse protection and enhancement; recreation and wildlife conservation; protection and restoration of shrub-steppe, forest and riparian habitat. There are 10 agriculture leases and 13 grazing leases. The leases provide food and cover for wildlife and as well as revenue. Under the direction of the new plan, management activities will remain as they have over the past 10 years.

Proponent/Applicant: Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)
Contact: Lauri Vigue
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Olympia, WA 98501
(360) 902-2549
Lauri.Vigue@dfw.wa.gov

Location of Proposal, including street, if any: 14 units within the Scotch Creek and Sinlahekin Wildlife Areas in Okanogan County, Washington: Locations and TRS for the 14 units are provided in the Environmental Checklist, Section A.12.

Lead Agency: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)

WDFW has determined that this proposal will likely not have a significant adverse impact on the

environment. Therefore, state law¹ does not require an environmental impact statement (EIS). WDFW made this determination of nonsignificance (DNS) after we reviewed the environmental checklist and other information on file with us.

We issued this DNS according to state rules.² **We will not act on this proposal for 30 days** from the date we issued the DNS. Agencies, affected tribes, and members of the public are invited to comment on this proposal or DNS. We must receive your comments within 30 days of the date of this letter. The comment period will end at **5:00 pm on December 29, 2016**.

Method of Comment: The following procedures shall govern the method to comment on agency SEPA proposals. Comments received through these procedures are part of the official SEPA record for this proposal.

You can submit your comments any one of the following ways:

- Email to SEPAdesk2@dfw.wa.gov
- Online at the WDFW SEPA website comment link at: <http://wdfw.wa.gov/licensing/sepa/>
- Fax to (360) 902-2946;
- Mail to the address below.

Responsible Official: Lisa Wood

Position/Title: SEPA/NEPA Coordinator, WDFW Regulatory Services Section

Address: 600 Capitol Way North, Olympia, WA 98501-1091

After the comment period closes, applicants may view the updated status of this proposal on the WDFW SEPA website: <http://wdfw.wa.gov/licensing/sepa/>. Once the status is posted as final, applicants and permittees may take action on the proposal. When a proposal is modified or withdrawn, notice will be given in accordance with state law.¹

If you have questions about this DNS or the details of the proposal, contact Lisa Wood at the address, e-mail, or fax number above; you can also call her at (360) 902-2260.

DATE OF ISSUE: November 29, 2016

SIGNATURE:



Footnotes

1. RCW 43.21C.030(2)(c)
2. WAC 197-11-340(2).

SEPA Log Number: 16-071.dns